

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A diagnostic apparatus of a valve timing control system in which a valve timing is variably controlled by changing a rotational phase between a crankshaft and a cam shaft of an engine. The apparatus has a, ~~comprises means~~ detector for detecting a fluctuation of engine speeds of the engine following a change of engine operating conditions and for calculating a diagnosis value based on the fluctuation,; and a comparator

~~means~~ _ for comparing the diagnosis value with a preestablished threshold value and for judging that a failure occurs in the valve timing control system, in case where the diagnosis value exceeds the threshold value.